Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- A video encoder ~~(200, 300)~~ and corresponding method ~~(400)~~ are provided for mixed inter/intra encoding of a macroblock having a plurality of partitions, where the encoder includes a reference picture weighting applicator ~~(292, 392)~~ coupled with a reference picture weighting factor unit ~~(272, 372)~~ for assigning weighting factors corresponding to each of the inter and intra coded partitions, respectively; and the corresponding method for encoding a macroblock with several partitions includes inter-coding ~~(426)~~ at least one partition and intra-coding ~~(428)~~ at least a second partition. --